INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose of This Form.

This petition is used to classify an alien as:

- an Amerasian;
- a Widow or Widower;
- a Battered or Abused Spouse or Child of a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident;
- a Special Immigrant (Religious Worker; Panama Canal Company Employee, Canal Zone Government Employee, U.S. Government in the Canal Zone Employee; Physician; International Organization Employee or Family Member; Juvenile Court Dependent; or Armed Forces Member).

initial Evidence Requirements.

If these instructions state that a copy of a document may be filed with this petition, and you choose to send us the original, we may keep that original for our records. Any foreign language document must be accompanied by an English translation certified by the translator that he/she is competent to translate from the foreign language into English and that the translation is accurate.

Amerasian. Any person who is 18 or older, an emancipated minor, or a U.S. corporation may file this petition for an alien who was born in Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea, or Thailand after December 31, 1950, and before October 22, 1982, and was fathered by a U.S. citizen.

The petition must be filed with:

- copies of evidence the person this petition is for was born in one of the above countries between those dates. If he/she was born in Vietnam, you must also submit a copy of his/her Vietnamese I.D. card, or an affidavit explaining why it is not available;
- copies of evidence establishing the parentage of the person, and of evidence establishing that the biological father was a U.S. citizen. Examples of documents that may be submitted are birth or baptismal records or other religious documents; local civil records; an affidavit, correspondence or evidence of financial support from the father; photographs of the father (especially with the child); or, absent other documents, affidavits from knowledgeable witnesses which detail the parentage of the child and how they know such facts;
- a photograph of the person;
- if the person is married, submit a copy of the marriage certificate, and proof of the termination of any prior marriages; and
- if the person is under 18 years old, submit a written statement from his/her mother or legal guardian which:
 - irrevocably releases him/her for emigration and authorizes the placing agencies to make necessary decisions for his/her immediate care until a sponsor receives custody;
 - shows an understanding of the effects of the release, and states whether any money was paid or coercion used prior to obtaining the release; and
 - includes the full name, date and place of birth, and present or permanent address of the mother or guardian, and with the signature of the mother or guardian on the release authenticated by a local registrar, court of minors, or a U.S. immigration or consular officer.

The following sponsorship documents are also required. You may file these documents with the petition, or wait until we review the petition and request them. However, not filing them with the petition will add to the overall processing time.

- An Affidavit of Financial Support, executed by the sponsor, with the evidence of financial ability required by that form. Please note that the original sponsor remains financially responsible for the Amerasian if any subsequent sponsor fails in this area;
- Copies of evidence showing that the sponsor is at least 21 years old and is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
- Fingerprints of the sponsor on Form FD-258; and
- If this petition is for a person under 18 years old, the following documents issued by a placement agency must be submitted:
 - a copy of the private, public or state agency's license to place children in the U.S., proof of the agency's recent experience in the intercountry placement of children and of the agency's financial ability to arrange the placement;
 - a favorable home study of the sponsor conducted by a legally authorized agency;

- a pre-placement report from the agency, including information regarding any family separation or dislocation abroad that would result from the placement;
- a written description of the orientation given to the sponsor and to the parent or guardian on the legal and cultural aspects of the placement;
- a statement from the agency showing that the sponsor has been given a report on the pre-placement screening and evaluation of the child; and
- a written plan from the agency to provide follow-up services, including mediation and counseling, and describing the contingency plans to place the person this petition is for in another suitable home if the initial placement fails.

Widow/Widower of a United States Citizen. You may file this petition for yourself if:

- you were married for at least two years to a U.S. citizen who is now deceased and who was a U.S. citizen at the time of death;
- your citizen spouse's death was less than two years ago;
- you were not legally separated from your citizen spouse at the time of death; and
- you have not remarried.

The petition must be filed with:

- a copy of your marriage certificate to the U.S. citizen and proof of termination of any prior marriages of either of you;
- copies of evidence that your spouse was a U.S. citizen, such as a birth certificate if born in the U.S.; Naturalization Certificate or Certificate of Citizenship issued by this Service; Form FS-240, Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States; or a U.S. passport which was valid at the time of the citizen's death; and
- a copy of the death certificate of your U.S. citizen spouse.

Self-Petitioning Battered or Abused Spouse or Child of a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident. You may self-petition for immediate relative or family-sponsored immigrant classification if you:

- are now the spouse or child of an abusive U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident;
- are eligible for immigrant classification based on that relationship;
- are now residing in the United States;
- have resided in the United States with the U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident abuser in the past;
- have been battered by, or have been the subject of extreme cruelty perpetrated by:
 - your U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse during the marriage; or are the parent of a child who has been battered by or has been the subject of extreme cruelty perpetrated by, your abusive citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse during your marriage; or
 - your citizen or lawful permanent resident parent while residing with that parent;
- are a person of good moral character;
- are a person whose deportation would result in extreme hardship to yourself, or to your child if you are a spouse; and
- if you are a spouse, entered into the marriage to the citizen or lawful permanent resident abuser in good faith.

NOTE: Divorce or other legal termination of the marriage to the abuser AFTER the self-petition is properly filed with INS will not be the sole basis for denial or revocation of an approved self-petition. If you remarry before you become a lawful permanent resident, however, your self-petition will be denied or the approval revoked.

Your self-petition may be filed with any credible relevant evidence of eligibility. The determination of what evidence is credible and the weight to be given that evidence is within the sole discretion of the INS; therefore, you are encouraged to provide the following evidence:

- evidence of the abuser's U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent resident status:
- marriage and divorce decrees, birth certificates, or other evidence of your legal relationship to the abuser;

- one or more documents showing that you and the abuser have resided together in the United States in the past, such as employment records, utility receipts, school records, hospital or medical records, birth certificates of children, deeds, mortgages, rental records, insurance policies, or affidavits;
- one or more documents showing that you are now residing in the United States, such as the documents listed above;
- evidence of the abuse, such as reports and affidavits from police, judges and other court officials, medical personnel, school officials, clergy, social workers, and other social service agency personnel. If you have an order of protection or have taken other legal steps to end the abuse, you should submit copies of those court documents;
- if you are more than 14 years of age, your affidavit of good moral character accompanied by a local police clearance, state-issued criminal background check, or similar report from each locality or state in the United States or abroad in which you have resided for six or more months during the 3-year period immediately preceding the filing of your self-petition;
- affidavits, birth certificates of children, medical reports and other relevant credible evidence of the extreme hardship that would result if you were to be deported; and
- if you are a spouse, proof that one spouse has been listed as the
 other's spouse on insurance policies, property leases, income tax
 forms, or bank accounts; and testimony or other evidence regarding
 your courtship, wedding ceremony, shared residence and experiences
 showing that your marriage was entered into in good faith.

Special Immigrant Juvenile. Any person, including the alien, may file this petition for an alien who:

- is unmarried and less than 21 years old;
- has been declared dependent upon a juvenile court in the United States or who such a court has legally committed to, or placed under the custody of, an agency or department of a state and who has been found eligible for long-term foster care; and
- has been the subject of administrative or judicial proceedings in which
 it was determined that it would not be in the juvenile's best interests
 to be returned to the juvenile's or his/her parent's country of
 nationality or last habitual residence.

NOTE: After a special immigrant juvenile becomes a permanent resident, his or her parent(s) may not receive any immigration benefit based on the relationship to the juvenile.

The petition must be filed with:

- a copy of the juvenile's birth certificate or other evidence of his or her age;
- copies of the court or administrative document(s) upon which the claim to eligibility is based.

Special Immigrant Religious Worker. Any person, including the alien, may file this petition for an alien who for the past 2 years has been a member of a religious denomination which has a bona fide nonprofit, religious organization in the U.S.; and who has been carrying on the vocation, professional work, or other work described below, continuously for the past 2 years; and seeks to enter the U.S. to work solely:

- as a minister of that denomination; or
- in a professional capacity in a religious vocation or occupation for that organization; or
- in a religious vocation or occupation for the organization or its nonprofit affiliate.

NOTE: A petition for a special immigrant for a person who is not a minister may only be filed until October 1, 1997.

The petition must be filed with:

- a letter from the authorized official of the religious organization establishing that the proposed services and alien qualify as above;
- a letter from the authorized official of the religious organization attesting to the alien's membership in the religious denomination and explaining, in detail, the person's religious work and all employment during the past 2 years and the proposed employment; and
- evidence establishing that the religious organization, and any affiliate which will employ the person, is a bona fide nonprofit religious organization in the U.S. and is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Special Immigrant based on employment with the Panama Canal Company, Canal Zone Government or U.S. government in the Canal Zone. Any person may file this petition for an alien who, at the time the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977 entered into force, either:

- was resident in the Canal Zone and had been employed by the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone Government for at least 1 year; or
- was a Panamanian national and either honorably retired from U.S. Government employment in the Canal Zone with a total of 15 or more years of faithful service or so employed for 15 years and since honorably retired; or
- was an employee of the Panama Canal Company or Canal Zone government, had performed faithful service for 5 years or more as an employee, and whose personal safety, or the personal safety of his/her spouse or child, is in danger as a direct result of the special nature of his/her employment and as a direct result of the Treaty.

The petition must be filed with:

- a letter from the Panama Canal Company, Canal Zone government or U.S. government agency employing the person in the Canal Zone, indicating the length and circumstances of employment and any retirement or termination; and
- copies of evidence to establish any claim of danger to personal safety.

Special Immigrant Physician. Any person may file this petition for an alien who:

- graduated from a medical school or qualified to practice medicine in a foreign state;
- was fully and permanently licensed to practice medicine in a State of the U.S. on January 9, 1978, and was practicing medicine in a State on that date;
- entered the U.S. as an "H" or "J" nonimmigrant before January 9, 1978; and
- has been continuously present in the U.S. and continuously engaged in the practice or study of medicine since the date of such entry.

The petition must be filed with:

- letters from the person's employers, detailing his/her employment since January 8, 1978, including the current employment; and
- copies of relevant documents that demonstrate that the person filed for meets all the above criteria.

Special Immigrant International Organization Employee or family member. Certain long-term "G" and "N" nonimmigrant employees of a qualifying international organization entitled to enjoy privileges, exemptions and immunities under the International Organizations Immunities Act, and certain relatives of such an employee, may be eligible to apply for classification as a Special Immigrant. To determine eligibility, contact the qualifying international organization or your local INS office. The petition must be filed with:

- a letter from the international organization demonstrating that it is a qualifying organization and explaining the circumstances of qualifying employment and the immigration status held by the person the petition is for; and
- copies of evidence documenting the relationship between the person this petition is for and the employee.

Armed Forces Member. You may file this petition for yourself, if:

- you have served honorably on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States after October 15, 1978;
- you originally lawfully enlisted outside the United States under a treaty or agreement in effect on October 1, 1991, for a period or periods aggregating:
 - twelve years, and were never separated from such service except under honorable conditions; or
 - six years, are now on active duty, and have reenlisted to incur a total active duty service obligation of at least 12 years;
- you are a national of an independent state which maintains a treaty or agreement allowing nationals of that state to enlist in the United States Armed Forces each year; and
- the executive department under which you have served or are serving has recommended you for this special immigrant status.

The petition must be filed with:

- certified proof issued by the authorizing official of the executive department in which you are serving or have served which certifies that you have the required honorable active duty service and/or commitment; and
- your birth certificate.

General Filing Instructions.

Please answer all questions by typing or clearly printing in black ink only. Indicate that an item is not applicable with "N/A". If an answer is "none," please so state. If you need extra space to answer any item, attach a sheet of paper with your name and your alien registration number (A#), if any, and indicate the number of the item the answer refers to. Every petition must be properly signed, and accompanied by the proper fee. If you are under 14 years of age, your parent or guardian may sign the petition.

Where to File.

If you are filing for a Special Immigrant Juvenile, file the petition at the local INS office having jurisdiction over the place he/she lives.

If you are filing for Amerasian classification and the person you are filing for is outside the United States, you may file this petition at the INS office that has jurisdiction over the place he/she lives or the office that has jurisdiction over the place he/she will live.

If you are in the United States and filing as a Widow/Widower or as the Self-petitioning Spouse or Child of an Abusive U.S. Citizen, you may file this petition together with your application for adjustment of status. If you are in the United States, filing as the self-petitioning spouse or child of abusive lawful permanent resident, and have an immediately available immigrant visa number, you may also file this petition together with your application for adjustment of status. See the adjustment of status instructions for information about where to file.

If this petition is for an Amerasian, a Widow/Widower, or a Special Immigrant Armed Forces Member, and that person lives outside the United States, you may file this petition at the INS office overseas or the U.S. consulate or Embassy abroad having jurisdiction over the area in which he or she lives.

In all other instances file this petition at an INS Service Center, as follows:

If you live in Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virgin Islands, Virginia, or West Virginia, mail this petition to USINS, Vermont Service Center, 75 Lower Weldon Street, St. Albans, VT 05479-0001.

If you live in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, or Texas, mail this petition to USINS, Texas Service Center, P.O. Box 152122, Dept. A, Irving, TX 75015-2122.

If you live in Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, or Nevada, mail this petition to USINS, California Service Center, P.O. Box 10360, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607-0360

If you live elsewhere in the U.S., mail this petition to USINS, Nebraska Service Center, 850 S Street, Lincoln, NE 68501-2521

Fee

The fee for this petition is \$80.00, except that there is no fee if you are filing for an Amerasian. The fee must be submitted in the exact amount. It cannot be refunded. DO NOT MAIL CASH. All checks and money orders must be drawn on a bank or other institution located in the United States and must be payable in United States currency. The check or money order should be made payable to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, except that:

- If you live in Guam, and are filing this application in Guam, make your check or money order payable to the "Treasurer, Guam."
- If you live in the Virgin Islands, and are filing this application in the Virgin Islands, make your check or money order payable to the "Commissioner of Finance of the Virgin Islands."

Checks are accepted subject to collection. An uncollected check will render the application and any document issued invalid. A charge of \$5.00 will be imposed if a check in payment of a fee is not honored by the bank on which it is drawn.

Processing Information.

Rejection. Any petition that is not signed or is not accompanied by the correct fee will be rejected with a notice that the petition is deficient. You may correct the deficiency and resubmit the petition. However, a petition is not considered properly filed until accepted by the Service.

Initial processing. Once the petition has been accepted, it will be checked for completeness, including submission of the required initial evidence. If you do not completely fill out the form, or file it without required initial evidence, you will not establish a basis for eligibility and we may deny your petition.

NOTE: A Self-Petitioning Battered or Abused Spouse or Child of a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident may submit any relevant credible evidence in place of the suggested evidence.

Requests for additional information or interview. We may request additional information or evidence or we may request that you appear at an INS office for an interview. We may also request that you submit the originals of any copy. We will return these originals when they are no longer required.

Decision. If you establish that the person this petition is for is eligible for the requested classification, we will approve the petition. We will send it to the U.S. Embassy/Consulate for visa issuance unless he or she is in the U.S. and appears eligible and intends to apply for adjustment to permanent resident status while here. If you do not establish eligibility, we will deny the petition. We will notify you in writing of our decision.

Penalties.

If you knowingly and willfully falsify or conceal a material fact or submit a false document with this request, we will deny the benefit you are filing for, and may deny any other immigration benefit. In addition, you will face severe penalties provided by law, and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Privacy Act Notice.

We ask for the information on this form, and associated evidence, to determine if you have established eligibility for the immigration benefit you are filing for. Our legal right to ask for this information is in 8 USC 1154. We may provide this information to other government agencies. Failure to provide this information, and any requested evidence, may delay a final decision or result in denial of your request.

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.

A person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. We try to create forms and instructions that are accurate, can be easily understood, and which impose the least possible burden on you to provide us with information. Often this is difficult because some immigration laws are very complex. Accordingly, the reporting burden for this collection of information is computed as follows: (1) learning about the law and form, 15 minutes; (2) completing the form, 20 minutes; and (3) assembling and filing the application, 85 minutes for an estimated average of 2 hours per response If you have comments regarding the accuracy of this estimate, or suggestions for making this form simpler, you can write to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, (1115-0117) 425 I Street, N.W., Room 5307, Washington, D.C. 20536.

START HERE - Please Type or Print FOR INS USE ONLY Returned 1. Information about person or organization filing Receipt Part this petition. (Individuals should use the top name line; organizations should use the second line.) If you are a self-petitioning spouse or child and do not want INS to send notices about this petition to your home, you may show an alternate mailing address here. If you are filing for yourself and do not want to use Resubmitted an alternate mailing address, skip to part 2. Family Name Middle Given Company or Organization Name Reloc Sent Address - C/O Street Number and Name Reloc Rec'd State or Province City ZIP/Postal Country Code U.S. Social Α IRS Tax # Security # Petitioner/ (if any) Applicant Interviewed Classification Requested (check one): Part 2. □ Beneficiary Amerasian a. Interviewed Widow(er) of a U.S. citizen who died within the past 2 years b. I-485 Filed Concurrently Special Immigrant Juvenile C. Bene "A" File Reviewed d. Special Immigrant Religious Worker Classification Special Immigrant based on employment with the Panama Canal Company, Canal Zone e. Government or U.S. Government in the Canal Zone Consulate Special Immigrant Physician f. Special Immigrant International Organization Employee or family member Special Immigrant Armed Forces Member **Priority Date** i. Self-Petitioning Spouse of Abusive U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident Self-Petitioning Child of Abusive U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident Remarks: Other, explain: Part 3. Information about the person this petition is for. Family Middle Given Name Name Initial **Action Block** Address - C/O Street Number Apt. and Name City State or Province Country ZIP/Postal Date of Birth Country (Month/Day/Year) of Birth U.S. Social Security # A # (if any) (if any) To Be Completed by Attorney or Representative, if any Marital Status: Single Married [Divorced Widowed П Fill in box if G-28 is attached to represent Complete the items below if this person is in the United States: the applicant VOLAG# Date of Arrival (Month/Day/Year) ATTY State License # **Current Nonimmigrant** Expires on Status (Month/Day/Year)

Part 4. Processing Information.						
Below give the United States Consulate you want notified if this petition is appro-	ved and if any requested adj	justment of status cannot	be granted.			
American Consulate: City	Country					
If you gave a United States address in Part 3, print the person's foreign address and foreign address in the native alphabet.	below. If his/her native alpl	habet does not use Roma	an letters, print his/her name			
Name	Address					
Sex of the person this petition is for.	□ Male □	∃ Female				
Are you filing any other petitions or applications with this one?	□ No □	Yes (How many?)			
Is the person this petition is for in exclusion or deportation proceedings?		Yes (Explain on a sepa	arate sheet of paper)			
Has the person this petition is for ever worked in the U.S. without permission?	□ No □ Yes (Explain on a separate sheet of paper)					
Is an application for adjustment of status attached to this petition?	□ No □	□ Yes	,			
Part 5. Complete only if filing for an Amerasian.						
Section A. Information about the mother of the Amerasian						
Family Name	Given Name		Middle nitial			
Living? No (Give date of death) Yes	complete address line below	v) Unknown (a	ttach a full explanation)			
Address						
Section B. Information about the father of the Amerasian: If possible, attach a notarized statement from the father regarding parentage. Explain on separate paper any question you cannot fully answer in the space provided on this form.						
Family Name	Given Name		Middle nitial			
Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)	Country of Birth					
Living? No (give date of death) Yes	complete address line below	v) 🔲 Unknown (a	ttach a full explanation)			
Home Address						
Home #	Work Phone #					
At the time the Amerasian was conceived: The father was in the military (indicate branch of service below - and give service number here):						
☐ Army ☐ Alr Force ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Coast Guard						
 ☐ The father was a civilian employed abroad. Attach a list of names and addresses of organizations which employed him at that time. ☐ The father was not in the military, and was not a civilian employed abroad. (Attach a full explanation of the circumstances.) 						
Part 6. Complete only if filing for a Special Immigrant Juvenile Court Dependent.						
Section A. Information about the Juvenile						
List any other names used.						
Answer the following questions regarding the person this petition is for. If you answer "no" explain on a separate sheet of paper.						
Is he or she still dependent upon the juvenile court or still legally committed to or	under the custody of an ac	ency				
or department of a state?		⊐ Yes				
Does he/she continue to be eligible for long term foster care?		⊒ Yes				

7. Complete only if filing as a Widow/Widower, a Self-petitioning Spouse of an Abuser, or as a Self-petitioning Child of an Abuser. Section A. Information about the U.S. citizen husband or wife who died or about the U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident abuser. Family Given Name Name Initial Date of Birth Country Date of Death (Month/Day/Year) of Birth (Month/Day/Year) He or she is now, or was at time of death a (check one): U.S. Citizen through Naturalization (Show A #) U.S. Citizen born in the United States. U.S. lawful permanent resident (Show A #) U.S. Citizen born abroad to U.S. citizen parents. Other, explain Section Additional Information about you. How many times How many times was the person Give the date and place you and the person in Seciton A were have you been married? in Section A married? married. (If you are a self-petitioning child, write: "N/A") When did you live with the person named in Section A? From (Month/Year)_ _until (Month/Year)_ If you are filing as a widow/widower, were you legally separated at the time of the U.S citizens's death? Yes, (attach explanation). Give the last address at which you lived together with the person named in Section A, and show the last date that you lived together with that person at that address: No Yes (show child(ren)'s full names): If you are filing as a self-petitioning spouse, have any of your children filed separate self-petitions? **Part** 8. Information about the spouse and children of the person this petition is for. A widow/widower or a self-petitioning spouse of an abusive citizen or lawful permanent resident should also list the children of the deceased spouse or of the abuser. Family Middle Given Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship ☐ Spouse Child Family Given Middle Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship ☐ Child Family Given Middle Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship A # ☐ Child Family Given Middle Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship ☐ Child Family Given Middle Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship ☐ Child Family Middle Given Date of Birth Name Name Initial (Month/Day/Year) Country of Birth Relationship A # ☐ Child

G. Family Name	Given Name		Middle Initial	Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)		
Country of Birth	Relationship	☐ Child		A #		
H. Family Name	Given Name		Middle Initial	Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)		
Country of Birth	Relationship	☐ Child		A#		
	in the United S	States, sign below.		ting this part. If you are going to file this petition file it at a U.S. consulate or INS office overseas,		
I certify, or, if outside the United States, I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this petition, and the evidence submitted with it, is all true and correct. If filing this on behalf of an organization, I certify that I am empowered to do so by that organization. I authorize the release of any information from my records, or from the petitioning organization's records, which the Immigration and Naturalization Service needs to determine eligibility for the benefit being sought.						
Signature				Date		
Signature of INS or Consular Official		Print Name	me Date			
Please Note: If you do not completely fill out this not be found eligible for a requested benefit, and			ocuments listed in	the instructions, then the person(s) filed for may		
Part 10. Signature of person preparing form if other than above. (sign below)						
I declare that I prepared this application at the request of the above person and it is based on all information of which I have knowledge.						
Signature		Print Your Name	Date			
Firm Name and Address		L				